

Abstract of the Disclosure

A backlight unit is provided including a light guide panel (LGP), a point light source emitting light at an edge of the LGP; and a refraction member being positioned between the point light source and the LGP and refracting the light emitted from the point light source toward the optical axis of the point light source in order to reduce the azimuth angle of the light that is incident upon the LGP. The refraction member includes a prism array in which a V-shaped prism pattern is repeatedly arrayed, the apex of the prism pattern facing the edge of the LGP, and a transparent portion that prevents the light from being totally reflected by the prism pattern in a region along an optical axis of the light source.